Jennifer Oppenheim 1414 Westmoor Dr. Austin, TX 78723 - 3139

July 5, 1999

Dr. Stephen Sundlof FDA Center for Veterinary Medicine 7500 Standish Place Rockville, MD 20855

Dear Dr. Sundlof,

I urge the FDA to ban antibiotics used to promote growth in farm animals, for the following reasons:

- Animals which are fed a nutritious diet and live in a healthy environment do not need antibiotics to promote growth.
- Bacteria in animals become resistant to antibiotics the animals are given, and these bacteria infect humans through the meat, milk and eggs we eat. We have no treatment for people infected with antibiotic-resistant bacteria.
- Use of antibiotics in factory farms allows producers to keep animals in incredibly crowded, filthy, and inhumane conditions. Without the use of antibiotics, the animals would die of disease.
- Several European countries have banned the use of antibiotics in farm animals for just these reasons.
- Profits made by drug companies and factory farms should not outweigh public health concerns and concerns for the health and welfare of farm animals.

Thank you for your consideration of these issues.

Jemifer Egge

Sincerely,

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